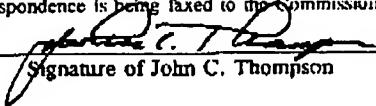


I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being faxed to the Commissioner for Patents at fax number 703-872-9306  
on 10/25/04   
Date 10/25/04 Signature of John C. Thompson Date of Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 25 2004

Appl. No. : 10/653,822  
Applicant : Klaus Galehr et al  
Filed : Sept. 3, 2003  
Group Art Unit : 3751  
Examiner : Nguyen, Tuan N.  
My Docket No. : IVd07US  
Customer No. : 29313

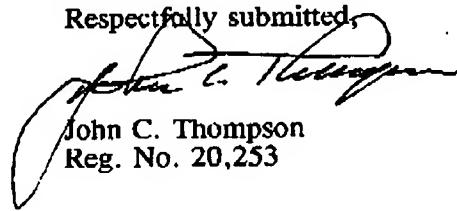
Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

Sir:

In the notice of allowance dated October 22, 2004 the examiner has indicated that claims 1-17 are allowable. However, claims 1-18 are pending in this application. As claim 18 depends from an allow claim it is assumed that this claim is also allowable. However, the examiner is respectfully requested to confirm this.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John C. Thompson  
Reg. No. 20,253

69 Grayton Road  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
(716) 832-9447  
Facsimile: (716) 832-9392

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- BLACK BORDERS**
- IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_**

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**